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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Brand Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

21 May 1953

REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. [redacted] air activity at Brand airfield:

2 April: Between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Il-28s and Uil-28s made about 30-minute flights, taking off to the west. Night flying was conducted between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. Jet bombers took off, and, after 40 minutes, landed individually. There was a 2/10 overcast and good visibility.

3 April: Mostly flights of 30 minutes duration were observed during daytime. Night flying was practiced between 8 p.m. and 1 a.m. During that time 10 lights were burning on each side of the runway; the taxiway was also lighted. No blinker lights, signal lamps or landing lights were in operation.

4 April: Light air activity was observed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. The weather was clear.

6 April: Flights of about 40-minutes duration were observed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. [redacted] Weather was 7/10 overcast.

7 April: During daytime, 30-minute flights were observed. There was heavy night flying after 8 p.m. in 6/10 overcast.¹

8 April: Shortly after 7:30 a.m., 20 jet bombers [redacted]

[redacted] approached from the east and landed at intervals of 500 meters. Subsequently the planes were parked in aircraft revetments or in the wooded area and refueled from 12 tank trucks with trailers. Beginning about 11 a.m., these planes took off again. They were escorted [redacted]

[redacted] The planes left in flight wedge formation toward the east. Part of them returned to the field about noon and landed at intervals of 500 meters.

9 April: At 8 a.m., the following groups of aircraft were parked along the edge of the southern runway in the order indicated:

12 jet bombers 7 jet bombers 6 jet bombers
8 jet bombers 5 jet bombers 1 twin-engine plane.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Uil-28s [redacted] and Il-28s [redacted] took off [redacted] at intervals of 500 meters. Individual 30-minute flights were made.

At 10 a.m., Il-28 [redacted] and towing an air sleeve took off. The air sleeve was fired at by Il-28 [redacted]. Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., 40 take-offs were observed. Weather was 9/10 overcast and dull.

10 April: After 7:30 a.m. 28 jet bombers took off at intervals of about 500 meters and then assembled into wedge formation. Thirty-five minutes later, aircraft [redacted] landed again. The remaining 27 aircraft landed after 2:20 p.m. Between 8 p.m. and 3 a.m., night flying was conducted.

CLASSIFICATION

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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11 to 14 April: Air activity was only light. Forty jet bombers and 1 transport plane were parked on the southern runway on each of the days.

15 April: At 6 a.m., 41 jet bombers and 1 twin-engine plane were observed on the southern runway. After 8 a.m., Uil-28 [REDACTED] and Il-28s [REDACTED] took off in that order. Aircraft [REDACTED] towed an air sleeve which was fired at.²

- [REDACTED]
2. On 10, 11 and 13 April, firing at sleeve targets was practiced in the Luebbenau area. The air sleeve was towed at an altitude of 1,000 to 3,000 meters, the tow plane being of the same type as the planes practicing firing. Bursts of two to five shots were fired. On 14 April, air-to-air firing was practiced at an altitude of 600 meters to 800 meters.
 3. On 13 April, firing at sleeve targets was practiced by Il-28s over Lake Schwieloch. Both nose and tail guns were in operation.¹

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. Two bomber regiments equipped with a total of about 33 Il-28s are stationed at Brand airfield.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] joint exercises by the Southern Fighter Corps and the Southern Bomber Division about 10 April [REDACTED]

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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